

LOUISVILLE METRO CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION MEETING SUMMARY

Thursday, March 17, 2005

Members Present: Judge Kathleen Voor Montano, Chair; Chief Judge Donald Armstrong, Jr.; Col. John Aubrey; Tom Campbell; Patricia Combs; Walker Cunningham; Rev. Charles Duncan; Dan Goyette; Frank Dufon (Designee for Steven Gurley); Roger Henderson; Steve Jenkins; Julie Lewis; Richard Lewis; Marjean Martin; Gary Oetjen; Robert Schmitt; Chief Judge James Shake; Dave Stengel; Lt. Col. Terri Winstead-Wilfong (Designee for Chief White); Clarence Williams; and Louis Willis.

Excused Members: Sheriall Cunningham and Tim Vize.

Guests Present: Allison Kern (Jefferson County Attorney Drug Court); Maurice Risner (Jefferson County Public Schools); Julie Hayes (District Court Administrator); Trish Berry (Youth Enhancement Services); Carla Kreitman (Circuit Court Administrator); Peggy Kidwell (Criminologist); Russ Stapleton (Louisville Metro Police Department - LMPD); Sharon Brite (LMPD); and Cpt. Frank Lucchese (LMPD).

Staff Present: David Nicholson; Bruce McMichael; Stephanie Stidham; and Faith Hartlage.

I. WELCOME/CALL TO ORDER

Judge Montano, Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

II. APPROVAL OF MEETING SUMMARY OF FEBRUARY 17, 2005 MEETING

The meeting summary of the February 17, 2005 meeting was unanimously approved as submitted.

III. PRESENTATIONS

Judge Montano introduced the guest speaker, **Bruce Gadansky, Vice President/Operations, Louisville Office, Better Business Bureau, Inc.** – who presented an overview of its services and detailed information regarding the growing threat of identify theft. This is the fastest growing crime in the United States, although Kentucky has fewer reported cases than the majority of the states. The Better Business Bureau works very closely with allied agencies such as the Attorney General, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), etc. Victims and support agencies must move quickly once an identify theft occurs. The FTC has established a *Consumer Sentinel*[®] program (fact sheet provided to members), which is a secure on-line database available to law enforcement agencies involved in investigating identity theft and other fraud cases. Mr. Gadansky provided members with an FTC pamphlet entitled, *ID Theft, What's It All About?* and briefly outlined what steps are required when a person's identity has been stolen. He said to immediately report the theft to the police, notify one of the three primary credit bureaus to report a "fraud alert", and cancel all accounts compromised. There were over 250,000 reported cases of identity theft reported last year, with many more occurring, but unreported. This reported number reflects an estimated 10% to 15% increase each year. Mr. Gadansky referenced a recent case of notoriety involving a 15-year-old boy who, using a stolen identity, bilked individuals for over \$500,000 over an 18-month period. He was 13 when he started the scheme. Mr. Gadansky also mentioned Bruce McMichael's recent encounter as a victim of identity theft. Mr. McMichael provided a brief summary of the events and mentioned

how quickly the “thieves(s)” were able to use his wife’s identity and credit cards to purchase nearly \$3,500 dollars worth of goods in less than two hours. Mr. Gadansky closed his remarks by indicating that his agency is available to assist victims of identity theft and to contact his agency for additional information.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Domestic Violence Prevention Coordinating Council - David Nicholson, Criminal Justice Commission - reported that the Domestic Violence Prevention Coordinating Council (DVPCC) is scheduled to meet on April 21st, from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m., in the Crown Room. The DVPCC Mortality Review Subcommittee is scheduled to meet March 18th, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., at the Urban Government Center, and the Interagency Subcommittee is scheduled for March 22nd, from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m., at the Urban Government Center.

B. Legislative Committee - Walker Cunningham, Chair – informed members that as of today, 107 criminal justice-related bills were filed, 18 were sent to the Governor, and only one (1) was signed. The signed bill involved electronic traffic signal devices. David Nicholson interjected that some of the bills with criminal justice interest were as follows: House Bill (HB) 72 relating to truancy issues; HB 77 relating to changes in dissemination of public information, especially information regarding Open Meetings and Open Records; HB 298 relating to the protection of adults and declaring an emergency; and Senate Bill (SB) 91 relating to assault in the third degree which would now include among others, emergency medical services personnel, organized fire department members, and rescue squad personnel; and the name of the Act is the "Brenda D. Cowan Act" honoring the victim, an EMS employee, who was shot and killed in Lexington while responding to an incident.

C. Jail Policy Committee – David Nicholson reported that the Jail Policy Committee continues to meet regularly to discuss a variety of issues including overcrowding. An article depicting the overcrowding situation was recently published in *The Courier-Journal*. Mr. Nicholson indicated there is a shortage of female inmate beds within our local jail as well as the Kentucky Correctional Institution for Women located in Pewee Valley; and in both facilities, drug offenses are a primary contributor. Because State facilities have insufficient female bed space, State-sentenced female inmates are being held in local jails. To assist with the female overcrowding situation, the Elliott County Correctional Facility currently in the final stages of construction may modify a section to house female inmates.

VI. DIRECTOR’S REPORT

David Nicholson reported on the following:

- The 2004 Criminal Justice Commission Annual Report. David noted the cover page, which illustrates Commission membership, refers to those members who were on the Board as of December 31st. He also highlighted page seven depicting the Commission’s assistance with grant submissions that resulted in this community receiving nearly \$17 million in grant opportunities.
- It was suggested at last month’s meeting that during late summer or early fall, in lieu of the normal business meeting, that we might conduct another team building exercise for members. However, due to costs and budget constraints, it will not be scheduled. A dinner meeting of the Commission may be scheduled in the future, if funds are obtained.

- Announced that we have yet to receive any word on the Commission logo shirts ordered in October. In all probability, the order will be cancelled.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) - the Criminal Justice Commission Board serves as the review body for the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) programs. In addition to Board members, a member of the Jefferson County Public Schools and a member of a substance abuse treatment program also review and vote on the proposals. Maurice Risner, Jefferson County Public Schools, and Allison Kern, Jefferson County Drug Court, serve as these respective representatives. **Cpt. Frank Lucchese, LMPD**, advised members of the enclosed Louisville Metro Police JAG Equipment proposal totaling \$526,350.00. The proposal covers the purchase of equipment to either replace existing equipment or add additional equipment for the agency. Judge Montano called for a formal vote. A motion was made by Col. John Aubrey, seconded by Chief Judge Donald Armstrong, Jr., and unanimously approved to accept the grant proposal as presented.

VIII. ADJOURN/NEXT MEETING

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned. Members were reminded there is no meeting scheduled for April 2005. The next scheduled meeting is Thursday, May 19, 2005 at 2:00 p.m. in the Crown Room of the Judicial Center.